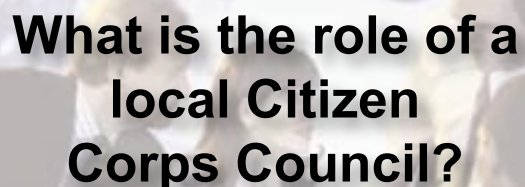




What is the role of the West Virginia Citizen Corps Council?

The West Virginia Citizen Corps Council is an organization network dedicated to making a safer West Virginia by developing new volunteer resources and public education programs while managing existing volunteer assets and supporting development of local Citizen Corps councils.



What is the role of a local Citizen Corps Council?

Local Citizen Corps Councils work to promote and strengthen programs at the community level as well as to provide opportunities for special skills and interests.

While encouraging cooperation among community leaders, the councils provide residents with training opportunities in first aid and emergency preparedness. This helps residents become educated about what to do in emergency situations when first responders are not immediately available.

They develop outreach programs for communities and organize special projects or community events such as disaster preparedness fairs and safety fairs.




Information about Citizen Corps

Citizen Corps is coordinated nationally by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. In West Virginia, the West Virginia Office of Emergency Services and the West Virginia Commission for National Community Service work together to promote volunteer service activities that support community safety and homeland security.

Information about your local Citizen Corps Council

**Citizen Corps Coordinator
West Virginia Office of Emergency Services**



address:
1900 Kanawha Blvd., East
Building 1, Room EB-80
Charleston, WV 25305-0360

phone: (304) 965-2779

e-mail: wvcorp@wvoes.state.wv.us



Be safer, stronger *and* better prepared



You can help your family and community be safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to any kind of disaster by joining your local Citizen Corps Council or volunteering in a Citizen Corps program.

After September 11, 2001, America witnessed a wellspring of selflessness and heroism. People in every corner of the country asked, "What can I do?" and "How can I help?" Citizen Corps was created to help all Americans answer these questions through public education and outreach, training, and volunteer service.

Citizen Corps Mission

The mission of Citizen Corps is to harness the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds.

Everyone can do something!



Be active in planning for your safety

You can develop a household preparedness plan and disaster kit, as well as implement disaster mitigation measures, and participate in crime prevention. You can get more information at www.citizencorps.gov and www.redcross.org. Your local emergency management office and American Red Cross chapter are also good sources of information.

Attend training

You can take classes in emergency preparedness, response capabilities, first aid, CPR, fire suppression, and search and rescue procedures. Contact the West Virginia Citizen Corps Coordinator, your American Red Cross chapter or local emergency management director about training opportunities.

Volunteer your time

You can choose a volunteer activity that supports first responders, disaster relief groups, and community safety organizations. To learn about volunteer opportunities, visit www.volunteerwv.org or call WV-HELPS.

Which Citizens Corp program is for you?

Neighborhood Watch Program

The expanded Neighborhood Watch Program (NWP) incorporates terrorism awareness and education into its existing crime prevention mission and serves to focus residents on disaster preparedness and training.

Community Emergency Response Team



The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trains people in neighborhoods, the workplace, and schools in basic disaster response skills and helps them take a more active role in emergency preparedness.

Volunteers in Police Service

Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) provides support for resource-constrained police departments by incorporating civilian volunteers so that law enforcement professionals have more time for frontline duty.

Medical Reserve Corps

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) coordinates volunteer health professionals, as well as other citizens with an interest in health issues, to provide ongoing support for community public health needs and resources during large-scale emergencies.

